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Brilliant return for prom

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students go through the dance moves to the 1990s song, the Macarena at the prom held on Saturday, May 28 at Sir Sam's in Eagle Lake. There were close to 130 people who attended the first prom in two years, which was put on hold because of health measures to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. /DARREN LUM Staff

'Astounding response' to short-term rental survey

SUE TIFFIN
Staff Reporter

The first of two surveys gathering feedback on short-term rentals in Haliburton County was "well received," consultants told councillors last week at a May 25 council meeting, with more than 1,500

responses collected online over a three-week period in April.

Jason Ferrigan, Tori Ruck and Gursimran Saini, planners with J.L. Richards & Associates Limited, are the consultants tasked with undertaking a study of short-term rentals to inform county council of current information and best management practices to help guide potential future development short-term rental

policies and regulations. The review was awarded to the consulting firm for \$55,235 plus taxes and includes a literature review, precedent review, survey of community perspectives, and stakeholder consultations.

Ferrigan said the survey had an "astounding response," and said the team had made, "good progress" in their efforts, and are currently in the "Under-

standing and Direction" phase of the review, which is intended to be complete this summer.

"We are still in the Understanding component of that, of the Understanding and Direction phase, still wrapping our heads and our arms if you will around the nature of both the issues and the oppor-

see **FURTHER** page 2



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Further community consultation on short-term rentals to come

from page 1

tunities that this sort of trend presents for Haliburton County," he said.

A total of 1,547 responses were received to the first community survey, which was intended to gather information about respondents' relationships with short-term rentals, and get initial perspective on positive or negative impacts on the community. Of those responses, 52 per cent were from Dysart et al, 20 per cent were from Algonquin Highlands, 17 per cent were from Minden Hills, 10 per cent were from Highlands East and one per cent of the responses were from those who don't own in Haliburton County.

Seventy per cent of respondents were generally supportive of homes and cottages being used as short-term rentals, noting they provide additional revenue for property owners, create economic development and employment opportunities and increase tourism. Thirty per cent of respondents were not supportive of short-term rentals, with the top five concerns being loud noise and music, septic system capacity, fireworks use outside permitted dates, bonfires during fire bans, and enjoyment of one's own property. The majority of respondents noted having concerns a few times a year.

Short-term rentals are not currently addressed in the county's official plan, and policies have not resulted yet from the separate reviews conducted in prior years by each of the lower-tier municipalities.

The report from J.L Richards & Associates Limited notes both Haliburton County's summer tourism population increase and effects on economy and waterfront development, and the increase in the short-term rental market with the emergence of rental platforms Airbnb and VRBO, and says, "As such, this puts Haliburton County in a unique position of balancing the advancements in the tourism industry with the need to create a regulatory framework to manage these new age vacation rentals."

In a literature review, consultants reviewed studies related to short-term rentals across North America and Europe, many of those referring to Airbnb.

"Generally, the research indicates that full time, entire homes and multi-listings are the underlying cause of various issues associated with short-term rentals such as constriction of long term rental markets and competition to traditional hospitality industry," reads the discussion of findings. "Further, Combs, Kerrigan and Wachsmuth (2019) conclude that short-term rentals are growing faster, concentrating faster, and removing housing from the long-term market faster in rural areas and Census Agglomerations than in Census Metropolitan Areas. This finding is important in context of the efforts to manage short-term rentals in Haliburton County, indicating foresight and a well rounded approach is necessary in all relevant policy decisions."

A precedent review looked at a desktop review of nine municipalities with short-term rental regulation frameworks in place: Blue Mountains; Whistler; Huntsville; Niagara-on-the-Lake; Lake of Bays; Prince Edward County; Vancouver; Kingston and Brampton, that review

to be supplemented with interviews later.

Among those municipalities, licensing application fees of \$25 and up were common, while license fees ranged from \$190 for a guest unit, to two-year fees of \$2,300. Regulation tools apart from fees and infraction fines included density, occupancy, parking, landscaping, amenity space, health and safety inspections, and other considerations, for example that weddings or other similar commercial activities not be permitted.

"Review of municipal regulations indicates that the best practices identified through the technical review of the literature have been adopted by various municipalities based on the local context," reads the report's summary of findings. "In addition to the above noted regulations, all municipalities contain general provisions in their relevant by-laws that require conformity of the units with other applicable regulations such as waste management by-laws, building code, fire code and noise by-law. Additionally, there is a requirement of site plan, floor plan, parking management plan and emergency exit plan, together with site inspections to get STR license in many municipalities. A responsible person who can respond to concern or complaints within a pre-determined amount of time is also a noted requirement in STR legislations."

The report notes that Collingwood does not permit short-term rentals apart from bed and breakfast establishments, and the City of Toronto requires licensing on short-term rental operators as well as platforms such as Airbnb.

Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy said he thought the issues were more with short-term rentals that are on the lake as opposed to off-water short-term rentals, and said he didn't personally believe that housing impacts brought up by the consultants were relevant to the issue of waterfront short-term rentals.

"If you're going to rent your cottage, you're going to want probably substantially more than the market will bear as far as year-round rentals," he said. He said he appreciated the Lake of Bays and Huntsville comparators and preferred those to comparisons with Victoria and Banff, "that are unique situations on their own."

Ferrigan said the consulting team had considered previous council direction to look at similar communities, as well as those further afield that have more tourism-based economies, but said he appreciated Kennedy's feedback.

County Warden Liz Danielsen said she agreed with Kennedy on the impact of housing as it relates to the study, but said short-term rentals do have an impact on the availability of housing, which was something to keep in mind when councillors speak to the overall issue of housing.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt said the report was a good start, and agreed with Kennedy that she was looking for comparators that were "communities like ours," noting the work she knew had been done in Bracebridge and Trent Lakes and asked if they could be considered. She asked, of those communities that have policies in place, how many staff have been hired to oversee the implementation of the program, and how those programs are working as some of the bylaws and processes are new.

"For now, the research is limited to the desktop review, compiling information, and I suspect that as we take the next stages we'll be having more focused discussions ... with some of those municipal precedents, in particular the ones that are more similar to Haliburton than others," said Ferrigan, noting they would look into Bracebridge and Trent Lakes as well.

Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin said the next level of analysis he would like to see are the findings in each year from municipalities that have regulations in place.

"I'm a great believer that you don't have to reinvent the wheel and I'm hoping in this tighter group of analysis that we can have some great copy and paste perspectives or outcomes we could have," he said. "It seems clear to me that anybody who has done this, and has done this well to mitigate it, has rules and bylaws and fees. To me that's the moot point, that's a given, yes. We need to do it. Who does it the best and how does it have the least negative consequences, and not impose a financial burden on other taxpayers?"

Moffatt asked the consultants what the process would look like for next steps in discerning which options from the examples given would be provided to council, given that those shared in the report were similar in some ways and dissimilar in others.

Ferrigan said the consulting team would be doing further research, and would then map out all of the options available to be brought back to county council, considering too capacity and administration practices for staff.

"At the end of the day what we want to be able to recommend ... is something that the county, should county council choose to, implement relatively quickly without a high degree of service training," said Ferrigan.

Highlands East Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall asked how commercial short-term rentals could be differentiated from casual house-sitting situations.

"I don't want to see a bylaw that comes into play that's going to restrict the average person from saying, my Uncle Burt and his three kids want to come out, or a good friend of mine that I have at work, as opposed to someone who advertises on the television," Ryall said.

Ferrigan said he knew it was important to county council to differentiate between "casual short-term accommodation providers," versus "commercial short-term rental accommodation providers," and said other municipalities will be asked about their approaches and experiences, that information later coming back to council in a report.

Moffatt asked about the structure of the survey, and if it was possible to know if answers were connected to those who owned short-term accommodations.

"Is there any correlation that those who feel that their lifestyle of commercialized short-term rental could be jeopardized may have negatively influenced the survey outcome?" she asked, noting she'd had conversations with some people who were upset about the process in place given short-term rentals is how they make their living.

The consulting team said they would look into that.

Some of the examples of communities in the report had modified their zoning bylaws to allow rezoning of properties to allow for short-term rentals, and councillors asked if that might come back to them as a recommendation, noting it would not likely be popular. Ferrigan said the team would look further into the possibility of rezoning as a tool and might bring it to council as a recommendation but that it would be up to council to discuss the viability of that option.

Kennedy asked about interim control bylaw, as local realtors are promoting the purchase of cottages as partial or full income generators,

"It doesn't affect current short-term rentals but it does put a halt on allowing any more, until such time as a municipality or the upper tier makes a decision or completes their research," said Kennedy, asking if it's something that might be considered. "I just feel sorry for someone that buys a cottage with the intent of renting it out, and then we say you're not going to be able to do that ... because we are considering it, but no one's telling them, prospective purchasers."

Ferrigan said interim control bylaws can be used by municipalities when they want to pause emerging land use issues in order to study them and make changes to land use documents, but he said he didn't necessarily recommend it in this case, in part because though they are an effective tool, they can also cause a significant amount of controversy within the community of a perception that they are impeding private property rights.

The second round of community consultation will focus on the different ways of how to address the issues related to short-term rentals. The second phase of the project includes stakeholder interviews, a preparation of draft background and directions report and preparation of draft policies and regulations.

County director of planning Steve Stone said the next report to council will be "pivotal, in terms of where the study will go." He said council will have to decide if they will take an educational approach or a more regulatory approach. The regulatory approach would require policy changes in all of the official plans, and definitions and regulations within zoning bylaws, or alternatively a licensing approach or combination of regulatory and licensing approach can be taken.

Haliburton County has seen a population growth of 13.9 per cent between 2016 to 2021. The county has a total of 21,072 private dwellings, out of which 9,714 – or 46 per cent – are occupied by 'usual residents' or what is commonly known as 'permanent residents.' Forty-four facilities have been identified as tourist accommodations, including bed and breakfasts, resorts, cottages, motels and campgrounds.

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County gives Point in Time transportation pilot project a lift

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

The County of Haliburton will fund \$20,000 of a rural transportation pilot project operated by Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents.

Marg Cox, Point in Time executive director, approached county council on May 25 to request the funding assistance for a transportation program operated by the agency that plans to offer greater access to integrated services including mental health and substance use, primary care, immediate support, peer support and employment support at the Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub.

"As many are aware, there are huge transportation needs in Haliburton County," reads the request from Cox. "High rates of poverty, increasing gas prices, inflation, escalating car prices and housing costs are resulting in even more transportation challenges as many who previously could keep a vehicle on the road are now finding it totally prohibitive. COVID has further reduced people's willingness to ride share and it is greatly exacerbating transportation poverty in our county. This combines with the increased need for people to be able to access services and supports to help mitigate the mental health and substance epidemic we are also experiencing."

Cox told council the Youth Hub has seen "numbers starting to soar," with usage of those aged 12 to 25 increasing from 201 youth in 2020/21, to 656 youth in 2021/2022.

"It's a service that's drawing youth in," she said. "Youth have a chance not only to participate in clinical services, psychiatric services, nurse practitioner services, peer support services, but also have a place to meet with other youth and build protective factors - isolation is highly correlated with substance use and mental health. It's a place to have fun, and that connection is also very important."

Point in Time has a small fleet of vehicles that can be used to transport youth, but like other organizations throughout the county, are experiencing staffing shortages. The centre has partnered with the Trillium Lakeshore District School Board to offer transportation on the late-bus that runs after school, but there remain gaps in that service.

"We know that summer's coming, and we also know the late-bus doesn't get everywhere in the county and that there's a real need for transportation," Cox said.

She said Point in Time plans to hire a dedicated driver that could provide youth hub rides and shuttles, and also transport children and families to offices in Minden and Haliburton as needed. The \$20,000 ask would help cover some of the driver's salary.

"This would help provide transportation and also allow the county and ourselves to start collecting data [related to ridership/demand] critical to addressing the larger transportation issue in the county," said Cox.

Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin said he presumed the program will be successful and asked if there was a chance the request would become an annual ask.

Cox said she hopes county council has a longer term goal for transportation that will help reduce the need for more individualized transportation, but also said having a pilot-program in place enables Point in Time staff to,

"knock on the doors of other funders and explore other options."

She said currently Point in Time staff travels as far as Kinnmount, Dorset and Cardiff throughout Haliburton County to provide outreach. One late-bus picks up riders at the youth hub on Tuesday and Thursday at 4:30 p.m. doing drop-offs in West Guilford, Carnarvon and Minden, and another takes youth to Wilberforce, Harcourt and Cardiff on Thursdays - about 30 youth use the service. Cox said for the proposed transportation program, staff would have to figure out what the best routes are, at first having youth use a sign-up system and planning in advance.

"We want to work with county staff to figure out what data would be helpful for us to be collecting that might be able to be used not only to map out our needs but plan as a county, including all of our residents going forward," she said.

As the request comes as a result of demand for service and staff shortages as a result of the stresses of the pandemic, the funding will come from Safe Restart funds the county has access to, to help with challenges caused by COVID-19.

In April, the county agreed, using transit reserves, to

“

This would help provide transportation and also allow the county and ourselves to start collecting data [related to ridership/demand] critical to addressing the larger transportation issue in the county.”

— Point in Time executive director, Marg Cox

finance \$20,000 of a rural transportation pilot-program designed to transport residents to employment training and employment, led by SIRCH, City of Kawartha Lakes human services and Fleming CREW.



Dam break damages road

Pine Avenue in Haliburton was closed from Harburn Road to 369 Pine Avenue from Saturday, May 28 to Monday, May 30 due to flooding and road erosion caused by a break in a beaver dam. Dysart Public Works staff resolved the issue on May 30. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

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It takes a community to care for our lakes

CHA's Water Stewards meeting credits volunteers with success

DARREN LUM

Editor

The Highlands is a shining example of how collaboration and volunteer commitment can effectively bring about positive change when it comes to being stewards of the lake.

This was the main message at the 12th annual Lake Stewards Meeting on Saturday, May 14 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton.

With one year in the books for the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (CHA) Mystery Snail Project, it's worthy of being celebrated said its leader Aquatic Program Specialist, Invading Species Awareness Program with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Brook Schryer.

He said it is inspiring to be in a room with the volunteers who helped with the removal of 490,000 banded snails and 63,000 Chinese mystery snails.

"That's a huge victory. Even if it's just going to give you folks agency, and, maybe not even, you know impact population this year, that's still a huge achievement that needs to be commended," he said.

There was media coverage, which helped to raise the profile of the snail project on a national level.

Close to 300 passionate volunteers in the Highlands were involved with the snail project last year, who have been trained to identify, collect and aim to decrease mystery snails in the county's



The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (CHA) Mystery Snail Project is a success because of volunteers said aquatic program specialist, invading species awareness program with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Brook Schryer at the 12th annual Lake Stewards Meeting organized by the CHA on Saturday, May 14 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton. /DARREN LUM Staff

lakes. Under the Federal fisheries act, snails are classified as crustaceans and fish, so removing them from the water requires a scientific collector's permit through the Ministry of Northern Development Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, formerly the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

Schryer said two volunteers were responsible for removing more than 17,000 Chinese mystery snails, essentially by hand or with makeshift tools such as a colander.

"But by and large that takes a lot of effort to remove that many snails. I know for a fact I spent two days and that was there on Koshlong Lake and there was four of us on the second day and, in total, we removed about 3,200 Chinese mystery snails. That's like every two seconds we're grabbing one," he said.

He noted how one individual even removed 257,000 banded mystery snails last year. This effort included some 38 kilometres of shoreline being monitored by volunteers, which included the reporting of 26 lakes. The pilot project also made its digital impression with 36,000 social media impressions and 4,000 engagements.

Schryer said the Chinese mystery snail has a special ability to protect its offspring, which makes it a challenging invasive species.

"The reason why these things are so prevalent is because they actually protect their young when they're hatching. So, they actually incubate their eggs internally, before giving birth to live offspring, which jumps over a life stage being eggs, which you know, normally eggs are very vulnerable [so] things will eat eggs, but because these are incubating them, what they're doing is the mother is protecting them," he said.

Summer to fall, he said, the young will be released, so getting out to remove the snails before this period helps to get ahead of the hatching. One Chinese mystery snail can have 100 embryos every year and can reproduce four of its five year lifespan, which he calls "exponential growth."

CHA chairperson Paul MacInnes said to the audience, "People in this room should be incredibly proud of what we have achieved here in Haliburton County. This program was one of a kind. We were the only group. We were the first group to create the master license. Before that the MNR wanted each lake, each person to apply for a license and it was going to take two years to get it," he said. "We went to our local MNR office. They were so cooperative with us and I said this is not working. We need a process where people can get a license within months and we can deal with multiple water bodies and they, with Brook's help, developed that program. This program is so well-known now across the world they call it the CHA Mystery Snail Program."

He adds Schryer presented the program's idea at an invasive species conference earlier this month in Belgium, showing the reach of this effort.

"That's amazing. You guys are amazing. You guys are the ones that made this happen," Schryer said.

There's now been interest in implementing this program in part of the States and in other provinces such as Alberta and Quebec.

"It's very challenging to recruit volunteers, as I said before, because it's very challenging to want to get involved because invasive species are such a huge problem. So, to have a group like yours that are so well situated on the front line of where Mystery snails are and are willing to be trained for three hours, and then actually go out on your free time to

see BLUE page 5

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**26th Annual General Meeting of
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2:00 p.m.**

(Meeting Agenda - Business of the Corporation: Reports of the CEO and Board, Chief of Staff, Auditor, Foundation, Nominating Committee, Election of Directors, and Appointment of Auditors)

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions and precautions that remain in place at HHHS, the 26th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) will be held as a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom application. In order to participate, Corporation members and members of the public who wish to attend will require an invitation, which will provide further information on how to participate.

For further information or to arrange for an invitation, please contact:

Marlene Vieira
HHHS Administration Office
Phone: 705-457-2527
Email: mvieira@hhhs.ca

Classic Fundraiser roars to life

The Haliburton and District Lions Club is welcoming the public for an opportunity to benefit the community with the Haliburton Lions Classic Fundraiser this Saturday.

There will be live musical performances, which will cover classic country, classic rock 'n roll, classic folk and classic show tunes, including a Loonie and

silent auctions, and snacks.

Organizers said it will be a fun night and will benefit our community. The first \$2,500 raised will be donated to the Haliburton County Public Library for early childhood education materials. The Lions always raises money to give back and help others. You can help too. For just \$15 a ticket, or two for \$25, you will

make a difference!

This event is being held at the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on June 4.

We help others and we need your help to make it happen. Come out for a great night for a great cause! It will be a Classic!

Purchase your tickets online at hali-

burtonlions.com or by e-transfer (haliburtonlions@gmail.com), including contacting Lion Gail Stelter at 705-455-2772, or contact any member of the Haliburton and District Lions Club.

Submitted by Gail Stelter

Blue green algae growth cause is complicated

from page 4

remove these snails is completely commendable," he said.

Clean, drain, dry (or disinfect) message to all watercraft users

This message for watercraft users is an effort to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).

As of Jan. 1 this year, the Ontario government has implemented new regulations that means watercraft equipment (boats, canoes and kayaks) are regarded as "carriers" under the *Invasive Species Act, 2015*.

The first two of the three points from the message are legal requirements. See www.ofah.org/insider/2022/03/ontarios-new-boater-pathway-regulations/ for

more details.

The effort includes posting signage at boat launches, reminding the public about the sequence of actions, and hosting public events to inform water users where they will receive information and offered an opportunity to be led through the specific actions applied to watercraft to ensure there is reduction of moving invasive species from one body of water to another.

From OFAH, zebra mussels cost Ontario close to \$4.5 million in 2019.

There are 20 events planned this boating season, including in Haliburton County at Little Hawk, Redstone Lake, and Kennis Lake. This effort also includes education for marinas, so they can also know and adhere to the safe practices. Part of the education's signage at boat launches was funded through the partnership with the CHA, the four municipalities and the Lake associations.

Blue green algae challenges

During the "Ask the Experts" portion, the audience was invited to ask the attending experts questions.

One question from the audience was about the growth of blue green algae blooms.

Biologist Carmen Pereira of Zygoptera Consulting said there have been first-time sightings of blue green algae in Haliburton County lakes and this is attributed to rising temperatures caused by climate change.

"When it comes to blooms a lot of these blooms are lake particular and a lot of research we have on blooms particularly are from eutrophic lakes. What I mean by eutrophic is high nutrient. The lakes we have here in Haliburton are oligotrophic. They're low nutrient lakes. So, we don't normally see a blue green algae bloom in these lakes, but incidences are increas-

ing," she said.

She cited Three Mile Lake as well-known example.

Norman Yan, an expert of lake health research and past chairman of the Friends of the Muskoka Watershed with 25 years of working for the Ministry of the Environment, added to the discussion saying that bloom growth isn't only attributed to high phosphorus levels, but also other contributors such as how the drop in average wind speeds and how blue green algae can move to different levels of the water to find nutrients to feed from are now being considered.

"This is an active area of research, so stay tuned when Carmen defends her thesis and comes back and explains it all for you," he said.

MacInnes said last year was a record year for blue green algae blooms with 11 reported in Haliburton County. Many of which had never seen a bloom before, he said.

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• 705-457-1037 • Fax 705-457-3275
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DAVID ZILSTRA
Publisher and Ad Director, ext. 37,
david.zilstra@gmail.com

DARREN LUM, Editor
ext. 38, darren@haliburtonpress.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON, Admin
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

DEBBIE COMER, Circulation
debbie@haliburtonpress.com

SUE TIFFIN, Reporter
sue@haliburtonpress.com

VIVIAN COLLINGS, Reporter
ext. 39 vivian@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON,
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

STACEY POTATIVO, Production

APRIL MARTIN, Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales
ext. 32, laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

Inside Sales
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Election exhibition of division

ONCE UPON a time I grew up in a country and a province that prided itself on not being American.

It was nothing to brag about. And, yet, it was a belief we all seemed to share generally. We were similar to our American neighbours, but never the same as our bigger brother we share a land border with on this continent.

And, yet, here we are with a provincial election coming up when the division between people and the political parties that will lead us to (hopefully) a post-pandemic world has never been greater than I can remember. And some of that division is correlated to the American misgivings about the role of government and the opposition to being “woke” to sensitivities.

There is a splintering of the left and the right. My editorial’s opening is a deliberate recognition of a past that is more fairy tale than reality now. Yes, there were problems before the start of this century, this millennium for women, visible minorities, including a void of sensitivities to people’s sexual orientation and mental health challenges. I’m not seeing the past with rose-coloured glasses at all. I had my share of racist taunts tossed my way with the grace and disregard to me, which were delivered by a proverbial shovel full of manure. And yet, I remember when politicians of different stripes stood and worked together when an idea for the betterment of a community was sound, regardless of who brought it forward. This may still happen, but it seems far more of a rarity than the many headline grabbing sound bites from polarizing politicians. Is it the media? Is it the public’s desire for this kind of nonsense? Is it the politicians drawing this attention? It doesn’t matter because it is tearing at the rich tapestry of what bound our country and our provinces.



darren lum

Editorial

Say what you will about Canadians, or even political leaders lending support to politicians south of the border, but it’s troubling when that support manifests itself into mimicry with the same hate-filled rhetoric heard from American politicians, and then is repeated up here.

What happened to respectful discourse? There is an aggression exhibited by people toward others who don’t share the same ideals, whether political or lifestyle in nature. Understanding has been replaced by anger and frustration. Why hear a differing opinion when you can find like-minded people on social media platforms that reinforce beliefs, which would have otherwise been questioned, and potentially lead to more discussion.

These are signs we’re moving towards becoming more and more like the Americans.

Thus far, our attitude to firearms is different, with our regulations and how it is unusual to see anyone walking the streets with a rifle slung on the shoulder. Please, note I am in favour of hunting, particularly when it comes to harvesting the meat. It is

far more sustainable than commercial farming will ever be and is part of our culture as a nation, particularly the First Nations and Indigenous people. I just don’t want to ever see open carry of firearms here, nor do I want to worry about the mental psyche of those that do own them for the safety of the public or even law enforcement. Will mistakes happen with how gun is implemented? Of course. Like anything, nothing is infallible.

We are an independent country with our own history and beliefs. Let’s not lose sight of that and we’ll be fine, as long as we remember who we are – we can still make a claim we are not American. I believe there is enough Canadians that still are holding true to the ideals that make me proud to be born in the country.



Around the bend in Gooderham

by Darren Lum

Oh deer!

THE MOVE into town had been a good decision. At first it had felt a bit strange: so many people and strange little animals making lots of noise. There were buildings everywhere and vehicles in all directions. Town could be dangerous if you were out for a walk.

But once she adjusted to the new surroundings, she decided to stay. There were many advantages to living here. With no shortage of food and more of her friends moving in every year, she had no plans to go anywhere else. This was now her home.

The children liked it as well. They found much to explore and new experiences were often just around the corner. As more and more young ones arrived, they were able to hang out together and play the ‘chase and jump up’ games so popular, especially in the warmer months.

The only drawback to this good life was the dirty looks and sometimes a raised fist or bad language. There were even people who set their dogs on them, though it was easy to outrun the canines. But they scared the little guys.

And life in town was not always a perfect situation. That was because of the killers. Some of that bunch followed her friends close to or even into town, leaving all of them feeling unsafe. So between the vehicles and the killers roaming about at night, she told her offspring to always stay within sight. She would avoid trouble, if she could, but if push came to shove and she couldn’t outrun trouble, well, she could kick like you wouldn’t believe.

Another baby was on the way. She knew the signs and, wondered, if it would be twins again.

Angie had just about had it. After working in her garden all weekend, she looked outside only to see the deer having another feast on her lilac bushes. The peas and spinach would be next, if she didn’t do something. So, the decision was made. Time to put up a fence.

Driving around town she had noticed many of her neighbours had

placed netting around their flower beds and shrubs. In the past, Angie had sprayed a non-toxic mixture on everything she wanted to protect. However, the rain washed most of it away and there were times she had to spray repeatedly. It became discouraging, to say the least.

So a fence was the next step. With the help of friends and good weather, it was amazing what they were able to accomplish. Then, like farmers or early settlers, Angie walked the fence line every day, looking for breaks in it. These were quickly fixed.

One morning while drinking her coffee and watching the sun turn dew into diamonds, she spotted a doe in the yard. Wondering how it got there, Angie went outside. She walked toward the animal. There was no doubt it was a beautiful creature. Large, softly dark eyes watched her approach. Angie admired it’s long delicate-looking legs, the large ears and how the last of its winter coat gave it a somewhat scruffy appearance.

Although it was surprisingly tame, it still didn’t want her to get too close. As no break in the fence was evident, Angie wanted to see where the deer exited. A few moments of confusion followed, with the animal running up to the fence, pushing against it with no escape and then trying another spot. It finally got away by pushing its head under the netting and running off.

Now Angie had the information she needed. She then secured the bottom of the fence all around, hoping this would end the incursions while also knowing she’d have to remain vigilant.

Her cousins were coming for a visit on the weekend and Angie knew they loved seeing the deer. Coming from an urban environment, they were awed by all the deer they saw wandering around town. Angie always cautioned them to be careful while driving at night. Hitting a deer often meant disaster for both human and animal. That was one thing they both had in common.

Down



sharon lynch

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points of view

Unbelievable

YESTERDAY, I was fishing on a local lake when I witnessed something I have never seen before. And before you take an informed guess, let me just say, it wasn't me out-fishing the other guy in my canoe. No, it was something only slightly less improbable – a chipmunk swimming in the middle of the lake.

I'm not mentioning this just because it is interesting. No, I'm only mentioning this because my buddy's reaction to it was interesting.

You see he is one of those people who is always trying to one up you.

Predictably, his response was, "I've seen many chipmunks swimming in the middle of lakes."

"Many?" I replied.

"Yes," he said.

I've known my friend for over 26 years, but his answer came as a surprise to even me. I would have figured he would have told me he had seen two at most. This way it might have still been within the realm of credibility. But no,

he chose "many."

"Many?" I repeated. "In the middle of a lake? Far from shore?"

"Yes," he replied.

Bear in mind that this is a guy who does not own a boat and spends less than 12 hours on a lake. Plus, his glasses frequently fog up.

Still, I just listened, and when he had finished one-upping me, I said, "Huh. That's interesting."

I want to trust him. I'd truly like to think that he has seen many chipmunks swimming around in lakes. For some reason the thought of this makes me happy.



steve
galea

Loon Tales

But I have a strong suspicion it is not the case.

Logically, I can think of no reason why anyone would have ever seen this more than once or twice.

This chipmunk was 100 yards out from the shore he had presumably left and was about 60 yards from the opposite shore where he was headed, when we saw him. I'm no expert but I don't think that is routine chipmunk behaviour.

Yet when we paddled up beside it and offered it a ride, it just sped up and gave us a look that said, "Leave me alone, I'm doing just fine."

Last we saw it, the buoyant rodent was 20 yards from landfall. And I have no doubt it emerged from the water in fine condition.

Still, it begs the question: what was it doing in the water?

I suppose it might have fallen from a branch or jumped in the water to escape a predator. Maybe a hawk caught it and dropped it? That's highly unlikely, since it appeared totally unhurt. More likely, it just wanted to take up swimming as a low-impact way to stay in peak physical condition. Or, he listened to his onboard GPS in cottage country. Or, more likely than all of those, it ran into kids with a home-made catapult

The point is I can't think of any good reason why a chipmunk would be in the middle of a lake. And I don't imagine this is something most of us have seen "many times."

Which makes me wonder why my friend thought this was an important experience to one-up me on?

I mean, the act of seeing more swimming chipmunks doesn't make you a better person or even garner the respect of someone who has seen less swimming chipmunks than you. In the grand scheme of things, it is kind of interesting, but unimportant.

But saying you have seen many makes you look like you are a serial one-upper.

Later that day, I teased him and told him about my theory. And he told me that he has seen a lot of kids with home-made catapults.



pic of the past

An oil painting of St. George's Anglican Church, which was painted in 1890 by Fannie Bemister (1864-1897), who was a member of the congregation. This is the St. George's that was built in 1870, but was, sadly, later destroyed by fire in 1920. It was replaced by the present church, which bears the datestone "1922," exactly 100 years ago, officially opening in 1923. Fannie, who was a skilled potter and painter, was the sister of Bessie (nee Bemister) Anderson, wife of John Anderson, who ran the Anderson's Store, which was located where Algonquin Outfitters is today. Her love of the "English Church," as St. George's was known then, inspired her to complete the painting. The painting was donated to the Haliburton Highlands Museum in 2021 by Fannie's great grandson, Hugh Barrett. Submitted by Haliburton Highlands Museum curator, Steve Hill.

letters to the editor

No jobs with a dead planet

To the Editor,

When questioned about how the Ontario provincial government's response to climate change was meeting its targets, Premier Ford recently answered that he was taking a different approach. He was creating jobs for the people. To that, I say, there are no jobs on a dead planet. The jobs that are needed are in the building of affordable, but sustainable homes, retrofitting of homes and businesses to improve their energy efficiency, and in the renewable energy sector; not building new highways over agricultural lands and wetlands.

In Haliburton County, when the Gull River hasn't breached its banks, the impacts of climate change are mainly felt in the bumps and holes in the roads from frequent freeze thaw cycles. Certainly not the life-threatening impacts that are being felt in India where temperatures reached 120 degrees Fahrenheit this week. Or in the Arc-

tic where melting permafrost is causing homes to collapse. Or heat domes in the west that caused forest fires so vast that we could see the smoke in Haliburton last summer.

Climate scientists across the globe agree that we have a rapidly narrowing window of opportunity left to prevent our climate from spinning completely out of control. Ontario is responsible for about 22 per cent of Canada's GHG emissions. If Ontario is saddled with our current government's climate plan, not only will Ontario fail to meet its target but so will the entire country. The next four years can't be wasted on a woefully inadequate climate plan.

The government that Ontarians elect on June 2 must not be shortsighted.

Susan Hay,
Haliburton

Ford: Unsafe at any speed!

To the Editor,

If you had to characterize Doug Ford as a vehicle, what would he be? Come on, give it a try. I know what I see after watching him these four long years. To me, he is a misfiring, gas guzzling, oil burning, smoky exhaust spewing old F-100 pickup. Steering is loose, brakes, suspension and body mounts are shot and the rear end clunks over the slightest bump. In short, this old junker needs to be taken off the road.

To the minority who will benefit from Ford's re-election, he is a sleek shiny drug kingpin's ride. They will continue to count on him to score their next development hit through which they get a buzz from paving over and building on more farmland and wetlands, and otherwise satiating their exploitative addictions.

To the majority of us in Ontario and that includes the countless non-human beings we share this province with, Doug is a big old Caterpillar D9 bulldozer deliberately and systematically knocking down and plowing under everything that matters to re-creating and maintaining a civil society living in harmony with nature. Bulldozer Ford has

long ago lost whatever conscious awareness he ever may have had about the fact that he is reliant upon the natural world for his own survival. Sadly, members of Ford's cabal and many of his blind faith supporters share his illusions as the climate cliff moves ever closer.

Given the shrinkage within the collective memory, here's just one reminder of a program crushed by bulldozer Ford. In 2017, Lindsay was included in the basic income pilot project. Our MPP Laurie Scott was "certain that the program would lead to improved help for Lindsay area residents." Before the 2018 election she said "we will continue to support this pilot project and look forward to seeing the results." If only you had spoken the truth Laurie. Take a good look in your mirror and imagine being poor!

If re-elected, I see Ford as a hearse transporting a coffin full of everything that really matters to people and our planet. Vote to take him off the road!

"If we help the earth, our planet will be saved from us," our six-year-old granddaughter.

John Gibb
Minden



Prom comeback
Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students Brooke Stover and Ben Robinson look at their photos after they were printed from the photo station set up for prom.



Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students pose with principal Chris Boulay, centre, at the prom held on Saturday, May 28 at Sir Sam's in Eagle Lake. There were close to 130 people who attended the first prom in two years, which was put on hold because of health measures to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. /DARREN LUM Staff



Students sashay around the dance floor in a conga line.



Students gathered outside for photos and to show each other their formal wear.



A date gets a helping hand with her heels while at the prom.

New art gallery offers a welcoming space for young artists

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

The Limbic Collective opens a door for everyone to become part of a community of artists and gain an insight to who they are and what they create with its new studio space in Haliburton.

Limbic Collective is a group of 10 young artists across various mediums who recently acquired a studio space in Unit 4 of the Stedman's Plaza on Highland Street in Haliburton and held their first weekend-long art show from May 20 to May 22.

The group aims to provide a welcoming studio space for young artists to experience making art in a dynamic setting and sharing it with the community.

Poet Ever, lead curator for Limbic Collective, said that the group's main goals are "to have community, make the entrance into the art world a little more welcoming, to be non-elitist, share the experience of art, make art together, sell and show art and the process of making it, and engage the community."

The Limbic Collective Art Show featured a silent auction, mural unveiling, an open mic night, and silent film screenings.

"The whole weekend was a huge success. We were kind of testing the waters of interest and engagement from the community and it went so well. Our open mic night was definitely the highlight. Almost all of the artists sold something, and we all definitely felt the love," Ever said.

The name for Limbic Collective is from Ever's interest in psychology, particularly the limbic system, and the desire to incorporate it in their own art.

"The limbic system is responsible for some of our most essential behaviours for survival. It's a core part of the function of emotions and memories. It's all about impulses and associations. Making art is very impulsive, and so much art is made around the ideas of love, emotions, and memories," Ever said.

The National Center for Biotechnology Information outlined emotional processing, spatial and long-term memory, anxiety, and regulation of the nervous system by hormone production as some of the main functions of the limbic system.

Ever also explained that the limbic system is a collection of smaller parts that work together to do something bigger, much like how the collective began.

"The collective started out as an idea that I spoke about with a few people who turned out to have a secret shared vision that we all thought was unrealistic at first," Ever said.

Brittany Bull draws a self-portrait at the Limbic Collective Art Show, which featured art by various local, young artists in their studio space in unit 4 of the Stedman's Plaza in Haliburton from May 20 to May 22.

Ever joked that the only thing stopping them from turning it into reality was anxiety, a function of the limbic system, about whether they could make it work or not.

The collective had its debut as a pop-up art show in December of 2021 and was a great success.

"When the pop-up show was over, we thought, 'Well, that was cool. If only we could do this all the time.' We then magically landed a lease for our studio," Ever said.

Their lease ends in December of 2022, but they hope to stay longer if they are successful in their space.

Mo Christiano, member of Limbic Collective, says that being part of the group and getting to share their space with other younger people has been the most rewarding aspect.

"I think it's important to have a space dedicated to and run by younger people in this town. There aren't a lot of things for younger people to do in Haliburton at the moment, so having a space where people can come and hang out, make some art, listen to music, and interact with people their age is very beneficial," Christiano said.

The opening of Limbic Collective was made possible by contributions from the Ethel Curry Gallery, Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre, Jim Blake, Talitha Varga, and the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC).

HCDC granted the Limbic Arts Collective with \$4,500 from their 2022/2023 Local Initiatives Program.

"Our plan is to have a multi-functional studio starting June 1. We plan on holding a proper grand opening sometime this summer, as well as exhibition events monthly, and smaller things like workshops, movie nights, open mics, rap battles, poetry sessions, and other art-making invitations regularly," Ever said.

With five full-time members and five part-time members, the collective hopes to get more part-time members as well as sponsors to help monetarily.

"We hope that people are interested in just walking in our door, seeing a space filled with art, and viewing the process of making it," Ever said.



The Limbic Collective Art Show featured art by various local, young artists in their studio space in unit 4 of the Stedman's Plaza in Haliburton from May 20 to May 22. The group's plan is to open full-time to the public starting June 1.



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Love is all about saying thank you

DARREN LUM
Editor

Sometimes in life the best things are not recognized until they're gone. However, St. George's Anglican Church didn't make that mistake when it came to the 60th anniversary for Bill Gliddon's service as organist (and many other things that needs to be done) at the Haliburton church.

They gave him his due and, if you ask him, they went above and beyond necessary a few weeks ago last month with speeches and gifts. It's an answer that is true to Bill, a past Highlander of the Year Award winner.

The retired music teacher is far from a memory. He is a picture of health, with his ever-present smile and verve for life, whether it's his service to the church he loves, his small yield of crops he grows on his property, which he gives to neighbours and friends, or to giving his time to people who share their thoughts and how he made sure to sing to residents over the phone, who were isolated at the local long-term care facility because of COVID-19 health measures.

He never looks for credit, but he beamed about how people gifted him various tokens of appreciation like the father of a family, who receives home made cards from their children.

Bill appreciated the acknowledgement of the milestone, which technically won't be achieved until the year is completed. With a laugh, he added that he'll take a cake at the 75th anniversary, which is something he thought is more deserving of a milestone.

He never imagined he would have held his position this long and said it's humbling when he thinks about others before him. It isn't about hitting any anniversaries, as much as giving back for Bill.

"I just think of what I have to do and to help the service go smoothly and to be inspiring because, you know, you got to have music in worship. It's just part of the worship of every faith. I so enjoy doing that and, if people benefit from it that's a good thing. It makes me happy," he said.

His highlight was when the church celebrated its 150th anniversary a few years ago and invited the Anglican's diocese's bishop to come to Haliburton, who was regaled by an original piece performed by the choir and written by Bill. This event also included the church choir who performed the anniversary song, which he also wrote, on the dock, as the bishop arrived by boat, as a way to retrace the historical moment when the first chairman of the Canadian Land and Emigration Company arrived by boat in Haliburton and decided on the current location for the church in 1864.

St. George's interim priest-in-charge David Barker (second time as interim) said Bill is very humble and sensitive man, who gives everything to the church.

"In both cases, working with him has been a joy and a delight. He's very sensitive in terms of choosing good music to set the theme of the day and that's an important part of our Anglican tradition ... we have scriptures provided for us to set a theme and then we try to work



St. George's Anglican Church organist Bill Gliddon is serving his 60th year at his post and does it out of a love for the community and his faith. /DARREN LUM Staff

the sermon in the hymns and all the music, everything should kind of fit in with that. Bill is really good at doing that, so it makes the whole worship experience much more beautiful when it's all synchronized and all following the same theme," he said.

He adds Bill has always encouraged young people to join the church and the choir. There's been times he has provided solo choir efforts to young people, which is not the usual thing for church choirs, David adds.

He was also part of the congregation for 10 years before taking over and was on the choir with his wife. This came about from an invitation by Bill to just come and see the choir during practice. To David's amazement, Bill had hymn books with their names on them and gowns ready.

"And that's typical of Bill. He's always looking for ways to include people. Make people feel welcome. That's one of the wonderful things about Bill in the 10 years I've known him," he said.

He adds one of the many attributes for Bill is his adaptability, which makes him an ideal accompanist when it comes to leading a church choir.

David has more than 40 years of working church experience before he retired and then became interim priest-

in-charge here. He hesitated to say Bill is the best he's worked with, believing it would be a disservice to others before, but said he ensured retirement has been a good time.

"He has brought joy and lightness in my retirement. I think musically, joy, and joy in life in my retirement," he said.

Bill's organist service time started in 1962. It was a different time. What was true then is still true today though. Bill is a constant. He may move a little slower and have little less hair and a few more lines on his face, but he loves this community and his service and commitment is the same then as it is today.

Bill lives by this motto
At the bottom of the stairs in St. George's choir room is a sign with a quote from Mother Theresa. He put it there for his choir members to see before going to the service, it reads: Let's do something beautiful for God.

"So, that's sort of been my motto. That's what I've tried to do with varying results. That God is patient and has a sense of humour. Obviously, when you [have to] put up with me," he said, laughing.

Building on the future

The 10 First Steps Training, Basics of Carpentry program students were recognized with a ceremony and social gathering at the SIRCH Bistro on May 19 in Haliburton. Pictured are Fleming Crew's Dawn Johnson, from left, at back, SIRCH training coordinator Dianne Woodcock, First Steps program instructor Doug Norris, and graduating students, Michael Woods, Charlene Wagar, Jane Wojtaszynski, Ben Drobog and Don Jones. Natasha Ferguson, from left, at front, Marhti Crowley, Maureen Carey, Dan Jenkins and Valerie Saunders. The program, which was facilitated by SIRCH Community Services and made possible by the partnership with Employment Ontario, Fleming Employment Services and the Ontario Trillium Foundation, was a 12-week course with hands-on training. /DARREN LUM Staff



Hawks hold their own with best at COSSA

DARREN LUM

Editor

A two year layoff amped up the enthusiasm and put the Red Hawks track and field team in a position for success at the COSSA (Central Ontario Secondary School Association) Track and Field Championship.

Held on Thursday, May 19 in Peterborough, COSSA gave many members an opportunity to earn a berth to the OFSAA (Ontario Federation of Sports Athletics Associations) East Regionals and take a step to achieving the greatest athletic success of making it to the OFSAA championship and for others it was an opportunity to grow.

Leading the way with her first place in the 100 metre dash and second place in the 200 metre dash, Leah Gallant beamed with pride about her achievement.

Part of the Grade 11 student's success, she said, came from off-season training, which included hill repeaters in her backyard. Another aspect to her overall athleticism is tied to growing up and participating in a diverse range of sports such as figure skating, ice hockey, swimming, and gymnastics.

Coming through in the finals of her races is derived from her competitive fire, she said.

"I don't really relax and, [what I do is] picture myself winning right before I take off [from the start] and then I get really angry and it makes me move faster. I want to win. Like there is no way you're going to beat me, and I just put this angry face on, right?" she said.

When she started the season it was her hope to just keep advancing as far as she could, but now (as of Wednesday) she has earned a berth to the East Regionals, and now she's striving for OFSAA.

Gallant said her favourite event is the 100 metre dash because it suits her strengths as a sprinter and her top-end speed, which comes close to the 100 metre mark.

She welcomes the opportunity to travel with her teammates, who will provide audible support with supportive and encouraging cheering.

Teammate Erika Hoare earned a pair of second place finishes in the 1,500 metre run and the 3,000 metre, and a third in the 300 metre hurdles. Hoare, who is in Grade 9, said her track success comes from the four-week training sessions before the season, including running and Nordic skiing in the winter. The novice aged runner said her strength has grown since competing for the Hawks in cross country running during the autumn when she earned an OFSAA berth. The Grade 9 runner said with the East Regionals organized over two days, which means one race this past Thursday and two on Friday. This will enable her to be fresher than COSSA when she ran three individual races (and one team race) in a span of a few hours. Although she earned an East Regionals berth in the 300 metre hurdles, she has decided against it to enable a better performance in her 1,500 metre run. Hoare also set a school record in the 1,500 metre run.

Grade 12 student Jackson Wilson, who's best achievement at COSSA was a second place in long jump, was surprised and happy about the performance.

"Every single time I have a good jump it's been after a 200 metre or like a 100 metre run. So, I don't know. I guess it's just better when my heart rates up," he said.

In between his second and third attempt at the long jump, Wilson said he had to run the 200 metre event and when he came back it was his best jump of the day to earn him the second.

Wilson also finished fourth in the 200 metre dash and the 400 metre dash.

Coach Karen Gervais said she believes nearly everyone on the team earned a personal best, which she said, "That's a win."

The two-year layoff seemed to be a major contributor to the effort and execution, she added.

"Everybody was keen to get out and get involved again and, saying, it felt great to be on a school bus full of athletes again. I never thought I would say that," she said. "It's really been good for everyone's heart and soul to be out there competing again. So, we're pretty motivated."

Grade 12 student Corin Gervais stepped out from training expressing how much he has enjoyed competing in the hurdling events where he finished second in the 400 metre hurdles and fourth in the 110 metre hurdles. His enjoyment comes from the jumping during sports he also liked such as basketball.

Part of his success has been in the development of his strength and his attention to pacing himself in races, particularly in the 400 metre hurdles, and executing



Red Hawks senior Liah Gallant runs from the blocks during practice last week after winning the 100 metre dash at COSSA on May 19 in Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School in Peterborough. The Grade 11 student took her love of competition to the sprint win, a second in the 200 metre dash and fourth in the long jump. /DARREN LUM Staff



The 4 x 400 metre relay team of Jackson Wilson, from left, Ben Robinson, Corin Gervais and Darian Willis earned a berth to the East Regional Track and Field Meet with a top-five finish at COSSA (Central Ontario Secondary Schools Association) Championship. Graduating senior Nick Phippen ran at East Regionals for Willis. Submitted by Karen Gervais

proper hurdling technique, ensuring his trail leg comes closer to the top of the hurdle than if he was to leap over. It was back in Grade 9 when he learned to hurdle from his high school coaches, who taught and trained him, and then he refined his skills from studying hurdlers in the Tokyo Olympics.

This being his last year of high school he has welcomed the opportunity to compete at the East Regionals. He knows the competition will be strong, so he is striving to set a personal best in his events.

Gervais also finished fourth with the 4 x 400 metre relay, which included Ben Robinson, Darian Willis and Jackson Wilson. He appreciated how the team's berth enabled graduating senior Nick Phippen an opportunity to get an all-provincial berth by running in place of Willis.

"It's nice that our team managed to qualify and he can run since his season was cut short. It means a lot to him, but either way, it's nice to make to these regionals, whether it's with a team or on my own," he said.

Other notable Hawks finishers at COSSA who finished in the top-five and were eligible to advance to the East Regionals were Cole Hamilton (400 metre dash in fifth), Lily Manning (300 metre dash in fifth) and Willis (2,000 steeplechase in fifth). Also, earning berths to the East Regionals was the 4x100 metre women's team was seniors Brooke Stover and Liah Gallant with juniors Lily Manning and Ceinwyn Mathura, who ran up in the age category. The 4x400 metre team of Stover, Gallant,

Sophie Longo and Erika Hoare finished fourth.

East Regionals

The Red Hawks competed at the OFSAA East Regional meet Thursday, May 26 and Friday, May 27 in Ottawa. A steady rainfall on Friday didn't slow the Hawks, who earned many top eight finishes and personal bests. Senior Liah Gallant placed seventh in the 100 metre dash and ninth in senior girls' long jump and in the 200 metre dash; senior Brooke Stover finished seventh in the 400 metres; novice Erika Hoare finished eighth in the 3,000 metres; senior Corin Gervais finished ninth in the 400 metre hurdles, and the senior girls 4 x 100 metre relay team of Gallant, Stover, Lily Manning and Ceinwyn Mathura finished eighth. Personal bests were earned by Darian Willis in the 2,000 metre steeplechase, who took 25 seconds off his time, and Haiden Bird with personal best by three seconds in the 800 metre.

"This group of athletes has been really fantastic to work with and they brought hard work, determination and team support to every meet and practice. The senior students showed some excellent leadership and we wish we would have had more years to work with this all-around great group of people. Wishing all the grads best of luck and looking forward to working again with our returning athletes," coach Karen Gervais said. The coaching staff included Ginny Marsden and Josh Kimble.

Charity leaves field in his wake

Local racer takes checkered flag towards becoming pro racer

DARREN LUM

Editor

Tyler Charity pulled through with a win overcoming pre-race jitters at the first race of the Ontario Watercross Racing Association (OWRA) watercross season.

With four races scheduled this season, the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School alumnus, who races in the semi-pro 800 class couldn't have started the season any better towards his dream of making the pro ranks, which requires three podium finishes.

Following the race held over two days from May 21 to 22 at the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre in Haliburton, the aspiring racer said a strong first heat set him up for the win in the semi-pro 800 race.

"I went into the first race with a positive mind set and came back with a second place, which put me right through to the final," he wrote. "For my final, I was very nervous. There are a lot of new fast guys and I knew I had to play my cards right. When the light went green I was the first one on the water and first one to the corner. Once I saw how far ahead I was I just put my head down and didn't let off till I saw the checkered flag," he said.

Charity's support crew included Noel Nicholls, Nolan Pruss and Ethan Gohm.

The Pinestone will host another race during the June 25/26 weekend.



Tyler Charity shows his winning form during a warm up for his first heat, which he placed second to earn an automatic berth to the finals where he won the semi-pro 800 race hosted at the Pinestone Resort on Saturday, May 21 in Haliburton. This was the first of four watercross races this season, as organized by the Ontario Watercross Racing Association. The Pinestone will host another race during the June 25/26 weekend. /DARREN LUM Staff

Public invited to Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony

The countdown begins! Mark June 18 on your calendar. The Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame is holding their inaugural induction of 17 local legends, and the Hall of Fame's committee hopes for a big turnout at the A.J. LaRue Community Centre (Haliburton Arena). Doors open at 1:30 p.m., and the ceremony starts at 2 p.m. sharp. Free admission!

The idea for a Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame started four years ago when a group of proud citizens sat around a table and shared some ideas about recognizing the incredible accomplishments of local athletes. Many athletes learned to skate and run and tackle and hurdle and "hurry hard" right here in Haliburton County. They lugged stinky gym bags into chilly change rooms on dark winter mornings and rode the late-bus home. They missed out on a few good parties because they spent weekends practising and competing and distinguishing themselves in their sports.

The time has come to honour those who had enough talent, drive and discipline to compete at regional and provincial and international levels. They have represented our community well, and they deserve our

thanks.

The Hall of Fame got underway, and the selection committee set to work. Their research included interviews with friends, neighbours, family members, coaches, and teachers. The ceremony will celebrate the stories of our local athletes, their challenges, their sacrifices and their successes.

The 11 athletes who are being inducted on June 18 at the A.J. LaRue Community Centre are: Mike Bradley, Glen Dart, Cody Hodgson, Joe Iles, Marla MacNaull, Bernie Nicholls, Ron Stackhouse, Lesley Tashlin, Anna Tomlinson, Jake Walker and Taly Williams. They excelled in curling, hockey, track and field and football. But more than that, they were role models for local youth who might have doubted the possibility that a kid from Haliburton County could make it in the NHL, the CFL or the Olympics.

Also being inducted, are three hockey teams, including the 1971 Haliburton the Minden Monarchs of the late-1950s and 1934 Haliburton Huskies.

Many of the members from that legendary OHA (Ontario Hockey Association) Championship team are

still Haliburton County residents. Those who moved away have been invited to reunite with teammates for the induction.

The Hall of Fame committee understands the importance of recognizing the local support systems needed to train, coach, and organize youth sports. They will also induct three builders; Linda Brandon, Lenny Salvatori, and A.J. LaRue. The June 18 ceremony is a community event. All are welcome. Come and watch the inaugural inductions into the Hall of Fame. Help to congratulate the athletes (and/or their families) with your presence. It says a lot about Haliburton County that all living inductees have made commitments to come home, some from very far away. They appreciate the local support they received and fondly remember their small town roots.

Committee chair, Roger Trull said, "Sport holds such an important place in the lives of so many Highlanders and we are thrilled to recognize those who have led the way!"

Submitted by Janet Trull

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Jim Allder*
705-935-1112

Silver Beach \$749,000

- Luxury 1,260 sq. foot, 2 bed, 2 bath condo
- Was grand prize for Princess Margaret Lotto
- Walk to sand back on Kashagawigamog Lake
- Located in Haliburton's finest lakeside com.



SOLD



Adele Barry
705-457-0306

Suburban Court

- Fantastic 1 acre waterfront lot
- Access to Pine, Green, Maple lakes
- Close to amenities



Dagmar Boettcher**
457-5968

Hunter Creek Rd

- 88 acre Class B licensed pit and quarry
- 66 acres extractable on yr round road
- Gorgeous flagstone granite ridge
- Potential to sever some lots



Andy Campbell
854-0292

Acreage & Building Lot \$579,000

- 98 Acres!!
- Several Building Sites Available to Choose From



SOLD IN DAYS



Gloria Carnochan* & Brean Budel*
754-1932

Thinking about selling?

- Wondering what your property is worth?
- Let's chat about the increase in value!



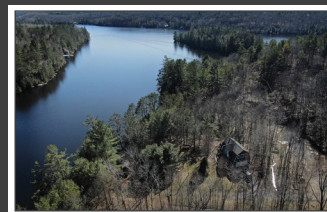
SOLD



Mark Dennys*
457-0473

Home On 5 Acres \$819,900

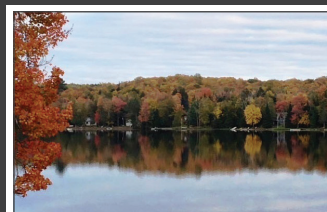
- 330 Ft Rd Frtg, 3130 Sq Ft, Attached Garage
- 3 Bdrm, 3 Bath, Partially Finished Basement
- Close to West Guilford & Eagle Lk Stores
- Close to Public Beach/Boat Launches/Ski Hill



Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 226

Black Lake \$960,000

- 1.75-acre parcel with 225 feet of frontage
- 2-bedroom cottage with ideal footprint
- 2 car garage with year-round apartment
- Stunning sunsets with south west exposure



Lindsay Elder**
457-5878

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Melanie Hevesi**
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NEW PRICE



Andrew Hodgson**
286-2138 x 229

Haliburton Home \$649,000

- 2,200 SQ FT home minutes from town
- 4 Bedrooms, 3 baths across 2 levels
- Beautiful in-law suite with walkout
- Stunning sunset views over Grass Lake



NEW LISTING



Susanne James* & Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 133

Miskwabi Lake

- Building lot with deeded lake access just across the road
- Yr Round Municipal Rd, driveway roughed in
- 2 lake chain, miles of boating



Ashley McKeigue
705-854-1833

Haliburton Acreage \$449,000

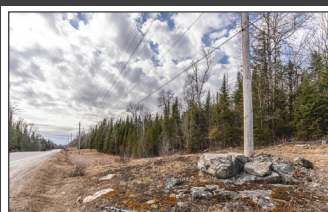
- Private 41-acre parcel w/ 2 driveways
- Hydro & Bell available at the lot line
- Several potential building locations
- 10 Mins from Haliburton or Eagle Lake



Donna McCallum*
455-2054

Highway 118 \$175,000 +HST

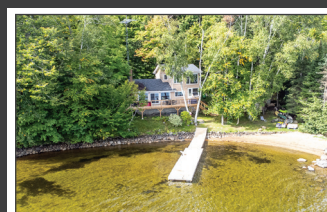
- Private 2-acre parcel in Tory Hill
- Fully fenced with driveway installed
- Hydro and Bell available at the lot line
- Just 20 minutes outside of Haliburton



Brandon Nimigon***
457-2128 x 127

Highway 118, Tory Hill

- 83 Acres
- Year Round Municipal Road
- Close to town



Karen Nimigon*
457-6505

Drag Lake \$1,750,000

- 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1600 sq. ft.
- Child-friendly sand beach
- 2-lake boating
- Updated, 4 Season & close to town



Kelly Kay*
705-457-6841
Kirsten Rae*
705-854-1454

Gainforth Rd

- Custom built Discovery Dream Home in Gainforth Estates
- Open concept 4 Bed + 4 Bath
- Private 4.4 acre lot minutes to Haliburton



SOLD



Darlene Reil*
447-2055

Essonville Line \$269,900

- 21+ Acres
- Walk To All Amenities
- Get Your House Plans Ready!



NEW LISTING



Christine Sharp*
705-489-9968

Family Compound on Twelve Mile

- Approx 500' of shoreline
- 3 docks, 3 living spaces
- \$2.75M



NEW LISTING



Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 128

Little Kennis Lake \$849,000

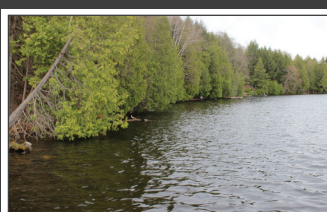
- 4 Beds / 2 Baths
- 20 x 14 Screened Porch Overlooking the Lake!
- Year Round Municipal Road



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 232

3 Bedroom Home

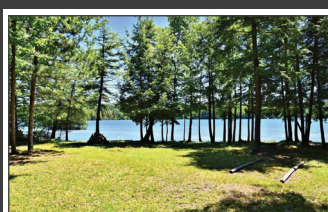
- Open Concept Living
- Full, Walk-out Basement
- 1.5 acres, Centrally Located between Minden and Haliburton



Tom Wilkinson*
286-2138 x 225

Salerno Lake \$349,000

- 172' waterfront Lot
- 1.17 acres
- Sunset exposure
- Ideal for walkout basement



Andrea Wilson**
705-457-6694

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- CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Ancient Greek sophist
 - 5. Genus of insects
 - 11. Culinary herb
 - 12. Neutralizing antibody
 - 16. Plan
 - 17. Pa’s partner
 - 18. A city in S Louisiana
 - 19. TNT sportscaster
 - 24. Atomic #25 (abbr.)
 - 25. Well-known bug
 - 26. Body parts
 - 27. Monetary unit of Albania
 - 28. Kids’ play things
 - 29. Coastal city in Malaysia
 - 30. Famed French physician
 - 31. Flourishing
 - 33. Excessively overweight
 - 34. Pampered
 - 38. Emerged
 - 39. Order of tailless amphibians
 - 40. Indian term of respect
 - 43. Shift sails (Brit.)
 - 44. Beloved Mexican dish
 - 45. Scottish tax
 - 49. Health insurance
 - 50. Monetary unit of Samoa
 - 51. Move about
 - 53. Execute or perform
 - 54. Taste property
 - 56. Unit of dry measure
 - 58. Blood group
 - 59. Something you can up
 - 60. In great need
 - 63. Breezes through
 - 64. Spoke
 - 65. Become acquainted with
- CLUES DOWN

 - 1. A particular part
 - 2. Spanish neighborhood
 - 3. Business
 - 4. Reddish browns
 - 5. Extinct Hawaiian bird
 - 6. Disney town
 - 7. Part of the Bible (abbr.)
 - 8. Atomic #22 (abbr.)
 - 9. The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
 - 10. In a moment
 - 13. Monetary unit of Vietnam
 - 14. Submerge in a liquid
 - 15. Yellowish cotton cloth
 - 20. - __, denotes past
 - 21. Hoopster Morant
 - 22. Not
 - 23. Indian title of respect
 - 27. Horsley and Marvin are two
 - 29. One thousandth of a liter (abbr.)
 - 30. Hoover’s organization
 - 31. Round globular seed
 - 32. University official
 - 33. Spherical body
 - 34. Iraq’s capital
 - 35. To any further extent
 - 36. Swollen lymph node
 - 37. Anger
 - 38. Technological marvel
 - 40. Peruvian district
 - 41. Salt of acetic acid
 - 42. What Santa says
 - 44. Israeli city __ Aviv
 - 45. Late Heisman winner
 - 46. Reveal the presence of
 - 47. Long upholstered seat
 - 48. Most wily
 - 50. Sword
 - 51. Respiratory disease
 - 52. The Ocean State
 - 54. Fleshy watery fruit
 - 55. Lying down
 - 57. Superheavy metal
 - 61. The ancient Egyptian sun god
 - 62. Indicates position
- Answers on page 16



Dr. Hunt scans the forest canopy for birds while leading the walk along the Heritage Hike trail that loops through the 500-acre nature reserve during the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's Discovery Days Wild Leeks and Spring Wildflowers hike on May 14 at the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve in Haliburton. /Ian Darragh photography See www.instagram.com/ian.darragh_toronto/ for more of Ian's photos.

Finding wonders at Barnum Creek

Intrepid Highlanders gathered at Barnum Creek Nature Reserve on May 14 in search of spring wildflowers and wild leeks.

This was part of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's ongoing series, Discovery Days.

The Wild Leeks and Spring Wildflowers hike was co-lead by Dr. Shelley Hunt, chair of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust and a forest ecologist, who has taught at the School of Environmental Sciences at the University of Guelph for more than 14 years, and naturalist Sheila Ziman, one of the founders of the Land Trust and currently a director.

It was a beautiful sunny day for a walk in the nature preserve, but the black flies were out in full force, so many donned bug hats and jackets and bug spray was liberally applied.

The Barnum Creek Nature Reserve is located at 1118 Gould Crossing Road just off Gelert Road about 10 minutes from the Village of Haliburton. The 500-acre property was donated to the Land Trust by the Dobrzensky family, and it was an honour to have daughter to the late-Leopoldina Dobrzensky, Margaret Dobrzensky of Haliburton Village participate on the walk.

Dr. Hunt spoke about the ingenious ways wildflowers have evolved to thrive in Ontario's woodlands. They require sunlight to produce seeds so have to flower in the brief period before the leaves on the mature trees block the sun from reaching the forest floor. The white trillium, Ontario's official provincial flower, has developed a clever way of distributing its seeds. It coats them with a fatty substance that ants find delicious. This encourages ants to collect trillium seeds and carry them to their nests, thus distributing the seeds throughout



A spider awaits prey atop a squirrel corn flower. /Ian Darragh photography

the forest floor.

This spring wildflower walk was funded in part by TD Friends of the Environment. The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust is a registered charitable organization, whose mandate is to protect wildlife habitat in the county. You can learn more about the land trust's programs and become a member by visiting: www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

Submitted by Ian Darragh



On track for fun

Competitors sprint to the finish line during a 100 metre dash at the Haliburton County Elementary School Track Meet held at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School on Saturday, May 28. /VIVIAN COLLINGS



Alice Lester competes in the triple jump event for Stuart Baker Elementary School.



Tessa Hagerman runs in the 100 metre dash.



Ruby Mansfield, Grade 3, competes in the triple jump event.



Annika Gervais flies through the air while competing for J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in a long jump event.



Charitable effort for canines

Participants of the Guide Dog Walk and Fundraiser event take to the sidewalk for the walk portion on Saturday, May 21 in Haliburton. Organized by the Haliburton and District Lions Club, the fundraiser resulted in \$3,110.85 being raised and donated to the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides, which helps with breeding and training service dogs for people with disabilities. The event was held at the PetValu in Haliburton and included a bake sale, plant sale, yard sale and book sale. /Submitted by Linda Heeps



The Guide Dog Walk and Fundraiser event included a bake sale with tarts available to purchase.



A shopper looks through items at the Guide Dog Walk and Fundraiser yard sale.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Frog Hollow Integrated Art Experience returns

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

Frog Hollow Integrated Art Experience invites you to join their various artistic events at their “grand opening” for the season this weekend from June 4 to 5.

“We invite the public to explore artist studios in nature settings and be inspired by experiencing the magic of visual arts against the backdrop of natural beauty in the Ontario wilds. Our intention is to encourage participants to awaken and

connect with their own inner artist,” stated a Frog Hollow Integrated Art Experience press release.

A tea party with live music will be held at Whirling Wisdom Creations Studio at 18378 Highway 118 in Tory Hill on June 4 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

On June 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. visitors can visit Earth Dance Studio at 1180 South Wilberforce Road in Tory Hill for an “Infinity Trail” meditative hike.

“Walk the infinity installation set in a glade overlooked by a majestic oak tree and enjoy the art sculptures appearing in the forest landscape,” stated in a press

release.

Later in the day, on June 5 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Whirling Wisdom Studio will be set up with supplies for expressive painting.

This is the second year that the group is hosting public events.

“Last year, we had a nice grand opening and it was a wonderful year despite the pandemic, but we’re really hoping we can get back into the flow of expressive arts and wellness,” said artist at Whirling Wisdom Creations Studio Biljana Bancho-tova.

The Frog Hollow Integrated Art Expe-

rience is open to all ages and is by donation. New artists are welcome to send an application to be part of the Frog Hollow Integrated Art Experience. For more information, visit froghollowtour.com or email Biljana at froghollow118.com.

“Visitors can expect to be inspired and feel connected with nature and also the community at our grand opening. It will be great for everyone to meet each other and spend time in nature with a focus on wellness,” Bancho-tova said.



Tip of the week

A report published in The Lancet, a weekly peer-reviewed general medical journal, in 2019 concluded that a dietary shift toward plant foods and away from animal products is vital for promoting the health of our planet. The report states that projections for the future show that “vegan and vegetarian diets were associated with the greatest reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions.”

Research shows that meat and dairy products are fuelling the climate crisis, while plant-based diets – focused on fruits, vegetables, grains, and beans – help protect the planet.

This submission is a climate action initiative from the Highlands East Environment Committee.

Submitted by Susan Hay

Gratitude for help, and seasonal work

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

My gratitude knows no bounds. From the cleaning of the walls in the living room to the last lick of paint. The next day, the kindly neighbours went all out to achieve the fresh look I wanted. Allan Cooper placed the plaques and certificates in place and also helped with the furniture, piano, including the bookcase again, which found its place.

Now the room is empty, empty that is until the family fills it with noise and laughter and music. Allan entertained with bagpipes outside and later with favourite fiddle tunes inside. No wonder I give thanks.

Before Allan came he said that he considered his greatest contribution would be his appetite and I did manage to produce a couple of favourite meals.

Gardening comes next on my list. In the meantime I catch up on books I’ve been meaning to read for a long time. Even though Wayne Cooper will not be out of hospital till Thursday, he arranged for his copy of *Great Expectations* to be brought to me. For lighter enjoyment, I have the late- Stan Beard (of Wilberforce) with his take on *Over the Hill* good to read aloud as much as by myself.

Looking further ahead into July, the final service of Maple Lake United Church will be held on the seventeenth of that month. May it be a sunny day for what will be a large congregation.

Further notice will keep you posted. Imagine masks will probably still be required, and people you haven’t seen lately being together again.



Municipality of Dysart et al

In the Heart of the Haliburton Highlands

Form 6

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

Municipal Act, 2001

Ontario Regulation 181/03, Municipal Tax Sale Rules

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

The Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart, Dudley, Harcourt, Guilford, Harburn, Bruton, Havelock, Eyre and Clyde

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on June 15, 2022, at the Dysart et al Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton Ontario.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Dysart et al Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton. **Submitted tenders will be opened virtually by Zoom. Register in advance for this meeting using the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_2xwqT86VTCzlvksnGr3vg**

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Description of Lands:

1. Roll No. 46 24 011 000 04700 0000; PIN 39252-0027 (LT); PT LT 5 CON 7 DYSART AS IN DY3763; DESCRIPTION MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE IN FUTURE AS IN DY3763; DYSART ET AL; File No. 19-04
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$24,000
Minimum tender amount: \$5,997.24

2. Roll No. 46 24 040 000 35300 0000; Irish Line Rd.; PIN 39141-0342 (LT); PT LT 8 CON 3 GUILFORD AS IN H12-005; UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT, GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE; File No. 20-20
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$82,000
Minimum tender amount: \$7,149.23

3. Roll No. 46 24 040 000 76415 0000; Eagle Lake Rd.; PIN 39142-0259 (LT); PT LT 11 CON 4 GUILFORD PT 1 19R4394; S/T GU626; UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT, GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE; File No. 20-21
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$28,500
Minimum tender amount: \$5,809.93

4. Roll No. 46 24 040 000 80800 0000; PIN 39142-0202 (LT); PT LT 14 CON 4 GUILFORD AS IN H181845 DESCRIPTION MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE IN FUTURE AS IN H181845; S/T INTEREST IN H181845; DYSART ET AL; File No. 20-22
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$28,000
Minimum tender amount: \$5,929.72

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/ money order payable to the municipality.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, availability of road access, or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. The assessed value, according to the last returned assessment roll, may or may not be representative of the current market value of the property.

Transfers of properties that contain at least one and not more than six single family residences and are transferred to non-residents of Canada or foreign entities, are subject to the Province's Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST).

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax and HST.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

For further information regarding this sale contact:

Rachael Velkovski

Tax Collector

The Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al

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Haliburton ON K0M 1S0

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INSIDE
THIS WEEK:

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PLAYING WITH FIRE
Rubber yo-yo ball poses risks of strangulation and burns

GOING FOR GOLD
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THE
ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

Tuesday, June 3, 2003
Vol. 120 No. 25
\$1 including GST

Is West Nile taking the bite out of tourism?

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

Resort operators and camps are being proactive about West Nile in an attempt to keep their guests and their efforts seem to be working. The number of visitors to the Highlands seems stable and comparable to last year.

Rita Baird, an attendant in Haliburton's Tourism Information Caboose, says they had a record 200 visitors on the May long weekend and none of them were asking or talking about West Nile. Baird has also been "popping" into several bed and breakfast places or other accommodations and no one has been telling her they are having problems because of West Nile.

"It's business as usual. Even the last two weekends, it's been rainy but we've been seeing about 100 people per weekend

and quite a number are looking for accommodation," says Baird.

Carol Moffat from the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce says they have not been getting any calls from people concerned the mosquito-borne illness. She has heard a few rumblings of operators concerned over lower bookings on the long weekend but that may be due to the general economy.

Others are experiencing a drop in numbers.

Bill Young, Wigamog's managing director, says they are receiving cancellations directly due to West Nile. He says the cancellations of reservations, many made a year in advance, are mixed between Americans and Canadians. Young said he noticed business slowing down at the beginning of the war with

See **Enrollment** page 16

Patients needed for new health network

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

The doctors of the Haliburton Family Medical Centre are asking all of their patients to drop by an open house at the Haliburton Legion on Thursday to sign up for a new Family Health Network.

The network is a new initiative by the provincial government to better fund doctors and attract new physicians, particu-

larly in rural areas. Dr. Karl Hartwick says this is the biggest change in the medical profession since the Ontario Health Insurance Program was introduced in the '60s.

Traditionally, doctors have been paid a pre-determined fee by OHIP for each service they perform such as examining a patient, conducting a test or doing a surgical procedure. In a network, instead of fee for ser-

See **Network** page 6



MARTHA PERKINS/Echo

What's a ghost to do?

Elvira the ghost, played with flighty maliciousness by Leanne Joiner, reminds her husband, played with suitable dry wit by Tim Nicholson, why he's glad she's dead in Noel Coward's dark comedy, *Blithe Spirit*. See our review on page 12.

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1 X BATH



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